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Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-ninth session
28 February-11 March 2005
Agenda item 3 (c)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives

Draft submitted by the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women

Declaration issued by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session

We, the representatives of Governments gathering at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, in the context of the review of the outcomes of the Conference and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", and the contribution of the Commission to the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly on the review of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] to be held from 14 to 16 September 2005;

1. *Reaffirm* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[2] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[3]

2. *Welcome* the progress made thus far towards achieving gender equality, stress that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and, in this regard, pledge to undertake further action to ensure their full and accelerated implementation;

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.
[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[3] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

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3. *Emphasize* that the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is essential to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,[1] and stress the need to ensure the integration of a gender perspective in the high-level plenary meeting on the review of the Millennium Declaration;

4. *Recognize* that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women are mutually reinforcing in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women;

5. *Call upon* the United Nations system, international and regional organizations, all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

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Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Mauritius:*, draft resolution**

Women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the goals and targets set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[1] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, in 2001, and the HIV/AIDS-related goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000,[2] in particular the aim of Member States to have halted, by 2015, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/2 of 15 March 2002, 47/1 of 10 March 2003 and 48/2 of 9 March 2004 on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS,

Recalling further the Declaration and Plan of Action contained in the final document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[3] and recognizing that their implementation is a major contribution to protecting the rights and promoting the well-being of children,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/236 of 23 December 2003, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS",

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Southern African Development Community.

[1] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

[2] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[3] General Assembly resolution S-27/2, annex.

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Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 203/29 of 29 April 2003, entitled, "Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria",

Welcoming the launch, in February 2004, the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS and its partners of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, which seeks to raise awareness of the affects of HIV/AIDS on women and girls and to stimulate and increase action in the fight against HIV/AIDS,

Also welcoming the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS, scheduled to take place on 2 June 2005, to review the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitments on HIV/AIDS,

Acknowledging that prevention, care, support and treatment for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS are mutually reinforcing elements of an effective response and must be integrated in a comprehensive approach to combat the epidemic,

Recognizing that populations destabilized by armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, including refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children, are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV infection,

Deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic disproportionately affects women and girls, and that the majority of new HIV infections occurs among young people,

Concerned that women's unequal legal, economic and social status and violence against women and girls as well as other cultural and physiological factors increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS,

Also concerned that women and girls have different and unequal access to and use of health resources for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS,

1. *Stresses with deep concern* that the HIV/AIDS emergency, with its devastating scale and impact, requires urgent actions in all fields and at all levels;

2. *Also stresses* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and emphasizes that the advancement of women and girls is key to reversing the pandemic;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments, supported by relevant actors, including civil society, to intensify national efforts and international cooperation in the implementation of the commitments on HIV/AIDS contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[1] and to work towards effectively reflecting in their national policies and strategies the gender dimension of the pandemic, in line with the time-bound goals of the Declaration;

4. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence and to protect and promote their full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

5. *Also urges* Governments to strengthen initiatives that would increase the capacities of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from the risk of HIV

infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including for sexual and reproductive health and through prevention education that promotes gender equality within a culturally and gender sensitive framework;

6. *Further urges* Governments to expand access to treatment, in a progressive and sustainable manner, including the prevention and treatment of opportunistic diseases and effective use of antiretroviral medication and to promote access to low-cost effective drugs and related pharmaceutical products;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls in relation to HIV/AIDS, including through challenging stereotypes, stigmatization, discriminatory attitudes and gender inequalities and to encourage the active involvement of men and boys in this regard;

8. *Encourages* the continued collaboration among the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Health Organization and other United Nations agencies, as well as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and other international organizations to address and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, in particular in the context of emergency situations and as part of humanitarian efforts, and also encourages the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in their work;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment by the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to work with the international community to support developing countries in achieving the target of providing antiretroviral medicines to three million people infected with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005, the "3 by 5" target;

10. *Encourages* the ongoing work by the United Nations system in providing widespread information on the gender dimension of the pandemic and in raising awareness about the critical intersection between gender inequality and HIV/AIDS;

11. *Emphasizes* the need for the rapid scaling up of treatment programmes to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and to encourage men to participate with women in programmes designed to prevent mother-to-child transmission;

12. *Encourages* the design and implementation of programmes to enable men, including young men, to adopt safe and responsible sexual and reproductive behaviour and to use effective methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of young men and women having access to the information, education, including peer education and youth specific HIV education, and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection, in full participation with young persons, parents, families, educators and health-care providers;

14. *Calls* for enhanced efforts by all relevant actors to include a gender perspective in the development of HIV/AIDS programmes and policies and in the training of personnel involved in implementing such programmes, including through focusing on the role of men and boys in addressing HIV/AIDS;

15. *Urges* Governments to continue to promote the participation and the significant contribution of people living with HIV/AIDS, young people and civil society actors in addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects, including promoting a gender perspective, and also to promote their full involvement and

participation in the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of HIV/AIDS programmes;

16. *Welcomes* financial contributions made to date towards the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, urges further contributions to sustain the Fund, and calls upon all countries to encourage the private sector to contribute to the Fund;

17. *Calls upon* all Governments to take measures to ensure that the necessary resources are made available, in particular from donor countries and also from national budgets in line with the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take a gender perspective into account when preparing the report requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/236;

19. *Decides* to consider this question further at its fiftieth session.

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Mauritius:* ** revised draft resolution

Women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the relevant strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Platform for Action[1] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[2] and the goals and targets set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[3] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, in 2001 and the HIV/AIDS-related goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000,[4] in particular the aim of Member States to have halted, by 2015, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/2 of 15 March 2002, 47/1 of 10 March 2003 and 48/2 of 9 March 2004 on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS,

Recalling further the Declaration and Plan of Action contained in the final document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[5] and recognizing that their implementation is a major contribution to protecting the rights and promoting the well-being of children,

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Southern African Development Community.

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

[4] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[5] General Assembly resolution S-27/2, annex.

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Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/236 of 23 December 2003, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS",

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/26 of 16 April 2004, entitled, "Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria",

Recalling further the holding of the XV International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, from 11 to 16 July 2004, with the theme of "Access for All" in respect of people living with HIV/AIDS,

Welcoming the launch in February 2004, by the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS and its partners, of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, which seeks to raise awareness of the effects of HIV/AIDS on women and girls and to stimulate and increase action in the fight against HIV/AIDS,

Also welcoming the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS, scheduled to take place in June 2005, to review the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,

Acknowledging that prevention, care, support and treatment for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS are mutually reinforcing elements of an effective response and must be integrated in a comprehensive approach to combat the epidemic,

Recognizing that populations destabilized by armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, including refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children, are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV infection,

Deeply concerned that the global HIV/AIDS pandemic disproportionately affects women and girls, and that the majority of new HIV infections occurs among young people,

Concerned that women's unequal legal, economic and social status and violence against women and girls as well as other cultural and physiological factors increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS,

Also concerned that women and girls have different and unequal access to and use of health resources for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS,

1. *Stresses with deep concern* that the HIV/AIDS emergency, with its devastating scale and impact, requires urgent actions in all fields and at all levels;

2. *Also stresses* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and emphasizes that the advancement of women and girls is key to reversing the pandemic;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments, supported by relevant actors, including civil society, to intensify national efforts and international cooperation in the implementation of the commitments contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[3] and to work towards effectively reflecting in their national policies and strategies the gender dimension of the pandemic, in line with the time-bound goals of the Declaration;

4. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence and to protect and promote their full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

5. *Also urges* Governments to strengthen initiatives that would increase the capacities of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including for sexual and reproductive health and through prevention education that promotes gender equality within a culturally and gender-sensitive framework;

6. *Further urges* Governments to expand access to treatment, in a progressive and sustainable manner, including the prevention and treatment of opportunistic diseases and effective use of antiretroviral medication and to promote access to low-cost effective drugs and related pharmaceutical products;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls in relation to HIV/AIDS, including through challenging stereotypes, stigmatization, discriminatory attitudes and gender inequalities and to encourage the active involvement of men and boys in this regard;

8. *Encourages* the continued collaboration among the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Health Organization and other United Nations agencies, as well as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and other international organizations to address and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, in particular in the context of emergency situations and as part of humanitarian efforts, and also encourages the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in their work;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment by the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to work with the international community to support developing countries in achieving the target of providing antiretroviral medicines to three million people infected with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005, the "3 by 5" target;

10. *Encourages* the ongoing work by the United Nations system in providing widespread information on the gender dimension of the pandemic and in raising awareness about the critical intersection between gender inequality and HIV/AIDS;

11. *Emphasizes* the need for the rapid scaling up of treatment programmes to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and to encourage men to participate with women in programmes designed to prevent mother-to-child transmission;

12. *Encourages* the design and implementation of programmes to enable men, including young men, to adopt safe and responsible sexual and reproductive behaviour and to use effective methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of young men and women having access to the information, education, including peer education and youth-specific HIV education, and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection, in full participation with young persons, parents, families, educators and health-care providers;

14. *Calls* for enhanced efforts by all relevant actors to include a gender perspective in the development of HIV/AIDS programmes and policies and in the

training of personnel involved in implementing such programmes, including through focusing on the role of men and boys in addressing HIV/AIDS;

15. *Urges* Governments to continue to promote the participation and the significant contribution of people living with HIV/AIDS, young people and civil society actors in addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects, including promoting a gender perspective, and also to promote their full involvement and participation in the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of HIV/AIDS programmes;

16. *Welcomes* financial contributions made to date towards the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, urges further contributions to sustain the Fund, and calls upon all countries to encourage the private sector to contribute to the Fund;

17. *Calls upon* all Governments to take measures to ensure that the necessary resources are made available, in particular from donor countries and also from national budgets in line with the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take a gender perspective into account when preparing the report requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/236;

19. *Decides* to consider this question further at its fiftieth session.

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United States of America: draft resolution

Reducing demand for trafficked women and girls

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 59/166 of 20 December 2004 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/45 of 19 April 2004,[1]

Acknowledging the fact that the majority of victims of trafficking in persons are women and girls,

Concerned about the increasing occurrence of trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation and sex tourism,

Recognizing that prostitution and the trafficking in persons for the purpose of prostitution are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and endanger the welfare of the individual, the family, and the community,

Recognizing also that the use of women in international prostitution and trafficking networks has become a major focus of international organized crime,

Convinced that a key element to combating the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls is reducing the demand for victims, including the demand for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation,

Deeply concerned over the commission of unconscionable acts of sexual abuse and exploitation by a number of uniformed peacekeepers and civilian officials of some United Nations peacekeeping missions, and concerned that such activity fuels the demand for victims of trafficking,

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II.A.

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1. *Calls upon* Governments to:

(a) Adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or other measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, and that leads to trafficking;

(b) Criminalize trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in all its forms and to condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries, while ensuring protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking, with full respect for their human rights;

(c) Enforce or adopt legislative and other measures to deter exploiters and sex buyers who create the demand for prostitution that leads to sex trafficking;

(d) Conclude bilateral, subregional, regional and international agreements to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, including mutual assistance treaties to enhance police cooperation, agreements and memoranda of understanding on information-sharing, and specific measures aimed at reducing demand;

2. *Also calls upon* Governments and civil society to:

(a) Take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly in women and girls, including to address the demand side of the problem, to publicize laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue and to emphasize that trafficking is a crime, in order to eliminate the demand for trafficked women and children, including by sex tourists;

(b) Implement educational programmes, including at the local level, in order to raise awareness of the negative consequences of prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, including the links to trafficking in persons, organized crime and harmful public health effects, and to inform sex buyers of the violence that prostitutes experience;

(c) Conduct research on the relationship between the trafficking of women and children for sex and legislation governing prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation;

3. *Encourages* the business sector, in particular the tourism industry and Internet providers, to:

(a) Develop or adhere to codes of conduct with a view to preventing trafficking in persons and protecting the victims of such traffic, especially those in prostitution, and promoting their rights, dignity and security;

(b) Collaborate and take action in coordination with governmental and non-governmental organizations to eliminate child sex tourism;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in conjunction with countries contributing troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions, to ensure the provision of training to peacekeepers and civilian and military advisers on sexual abuse and exploitation, including trafficking, and to ensure that allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation, including trafficking, are swiftly investigated and dealt with.

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Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

United States of America: revised draft resolution

Eliminating demand for trafficked women and girls for all forms of exploitation

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the provisions pertaining to all forms of trafficking of women and girls contained in the outcome documents of relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the strategic objective on the issue of trafficking contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[1]

Recalling the full range of previous resolutions on the problem of trafficking in women and girls adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, in particular their reaffirmation of the principles set forth in the relevant human rights instruments and declarations and the resolve expressed by heads of Government in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[2] to intensify efforts to fight transnational organized crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking in human beings,

Also recalling the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[3]

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[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[3] See General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex II.

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Acknowledging the fact that the majority of trafficked persons are women and girls, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

Concerned about the increasing occurrence of trafficking for all forms of exploitation, especially for commercial sexual exploitation, which overwhelmingly affects women and girls,

Bearing in mind that all States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons and to provide protection to the victims and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies their enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Concerned that the exploitation of women in international prostitution and trafficking networks has become a major focus of transnational organized crime,

Convinced that eliminating demand for all forms of exploitation, in particular for commercial sexual exploitation, is a key element to combating trafficking in women and girls,

Deeply concerned over all activities that fuel the demand for victims of trafficking, in particular activities by armed forces, peacekeepers and military and civilian advisers in other countries,

Welcoming the appointment of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on trafficking in persons, especially women and children and her intention to devote special attention in her annual report to thematic issues, including, inter alia, the root causes of trafficking and discouragement of the demand that fosters trafficking for the purposes of all forms of exploitation,

1. *Calls upon* Governments to:

(a) Take appropriate measures to address the root factors, including poverty and gender inequality, as well as external factors that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage and forced labour, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

(b) Criminalize trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, in all its forms and to condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries, while ensuring protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking, with full respect for their human rights;

(c) Adopt or strengthen and enforce legislative or other measures, such as educational, social and cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to deter exploiters and discourage the demand that fosters trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation of persons;

(d) Conclude bilateral, subregional, regional and international agreements to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, including mutual assistance treaties, agreements and memoranda of understanding to enhance law enforcement and judicial cooperation, and specific measures aimed at reducing demand, as appropriate, to complement the United Nations Convention against

Transnational Organized Crime[4] and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;[3]

2. *Also calls upon* Governments and encourages civil society to:

(a) Take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly in women and girls, including to address the demand side of the problem, to publicize laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue and to emphasize that trafficking is a crime and a violation of the human rights of trafficked persons in order to eliminate the demand for trafficked women and girls, including by sex tourists;

(b) Implement educational programmes, including at the local level, in order to raise awareness of the negative consequences of commercial sexual exploitation, including its links to trafficking in persons, organized crime and harmful public health effects, such as the spread of HIV/AIDS;

(c) Undertake research on best practices, methods and strategies, information and mass media campaigns and social and economic initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking in women and girls, in particular to eliminate demand;

3. *Encourages* the business sector, in particular the tourism industry and Internet providers, to develop or adhere to codes of conduct, with a view to preventing trafficking in persons and protecting the victims of such traffic, especially with regard to commercial sexual exploitation, and promoting their rights, dignity and security, including through collaboration with governmental and non-governmental organizations;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure the provision of training on commercial sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, including trafficking, to armed forces, peacekeepers and military and civilian advisers to be stationed in other countries, including for United Nations peacekeeping missions, and to ensure that allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse, including trafficking, will be swiftly investigated and dealt with to the fullest extent.

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[4] General Assembly resolution 55/25.

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Philippines* and Rwanda:* draft resolution

Special rapporteur on laws that discriminate against women

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the undertaking made in the Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995,[1] to ensure equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice[2] and the specific undertaking made in paragraph 232 (d) to revoke any remaining laws that discriminate on the basis of sex and remove gender bias in the administration of justice;

Noting the concern expressed in the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[3] that legislative and regulatory gaps, as well as lack of implementation and enforcement of legislation and regulations, perpetuate de jure as well as de facto inequality and discrimination, and in a few cases, new laws discriminating against women have been introduced[4] and the undertaking made therein to review domestic legislation with a view to striving to remove discriminatory provisions as soon as possible, preferably by 2005;[5]

Welcoming the progress that has been made in the implementation of this undertaking by the target date of 2005 while noting the need for further progress;

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Ibid., chap. IV.I, strategic objective I.2.

[3] General Assembly resolution S-2313, annex.

[4] Ibid., para. 27.

[5] Ibid., para. 68 (b).

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1. *Urges* Governments to intensify their efforts to revoke any remaining laws that discriminate on the basis of sex and to remove gender bias in the administration of justice, in accordance with the Beijing Platform for Action through the adoption of all appropriate means and measures at the national, regional and international levels;

2. *Decides* to consider at its fiftieth session the advisability of the appointment of a special rapporteur on laws that discriminate against women.

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Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into national policies and programmes

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[2] are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide in the achievement of gender equality and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned,

Recognizing that enhancing women's opportunities, potential and activities requires a dual focus, namely, programmes aimed at meeting the basic as well as the specific needs of women for capacity-building, organizational development and empowerment, together with gender mainstreaming in all programme formulation and implementation activities,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality, which requires making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated,

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[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

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Reaffirming also that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1999/2 on institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women,[3]

Welcoming the United Nations Millennium Declaration[4] and its call for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women,

1. *Reiterates* that in order to ensure the effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[5] and enhance the work for the advancement of women at the national, subregional/regional and international levels, Governments, the United Nations system and all other relevant organizations should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective, inter alia, in the monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes;

2. *Stresses* that political will and commitment at all levels are crucial to ensure the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the adoption and implementation of comprehensive and action-oriented policies in all areas;

3. *Welcomes*:

(a) The wide acknowledgement of gender mainstreaming, the goal of which is to incorporate a gender perspective in all legislation, policies, programmes and projects, as a strategy to enhance the impact of policies to promote gender equality;

(b) The institution or strengthening of national machineries for the advancement of women, the recognition of these machineries as the institutional base, acting as catalysts for the promotion of gender equality, gender mainstreaming and monitoring of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[2] and the progress achieved in terms of the visibility, status, outreach and coordination of the activities of these machineries;

(c) The contribution of these machineries, despite their limited financial resources, to the development of human resources in the field of gender studies and to the growing efforts for the generation and dissemination of data disaggregated by sex and age and gender-sensitive research and documentation;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to:

(a) Ensure that gender mainstreaming is fully understood, institutionalized and implemented, and that these efforts should include promoting awareness and understanding of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

(b) Develop and use frameworks, guidelines and other practical tools and indicators to accelerate gender mainstreaming, including gender-based research, analytical tools and methodologies, training, case studies, statistics and information;

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[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 1* (E/1999/99), resolution 1999/17.

[4] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[5] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

(c) Develop effective accountability mechanisms, in particular through the introduction of gender perspectives and gender equality indicators in budgetary processes at all levels of government and, if necessary, to provide adequate guidelines and expertise to support this process;

(d) Promote the collection, collation, dissemination and use of sex disaggregated statistics and data and gender-sensitive indicators to enable the construction of appropriate tools for planning and programming purposes and the development of effective monitoring systems;

(e) Provide assistance, as appropriate, to agencies, including those outside government, in formulating the gender-sensitive performance indicators necessary to measure and review progress made in the field of gender equality, including the advancement of women and gender mainstreaming;

(f) Support the provision of training on gender mainstreaming to all governmental bodies, at all levels, to ensure understanding of their roles and responsibilities;

(g) Involve parliaments and, wherever appropriate, the judiciary in monitoring progress in gender mainstreaming and strengthening gender-related aspects of all government reporting, and ensure transparency through open and participatory dialogue and the promotion of balanced participation of women and men in all areas and at all levels of decision-making;

(h) Structure appropriately the functions of national machineries at all levels in order to ensure effectiveness in gender mainstreaming and strengthen their capacity to undertake gender analysis and develop the methodologies and tools needed to play a catalytic role in gender mainstreaming across all sectors of government in collaboration with line ministries;

(i) Provide national machineries with the necessary human and financial resources, including through exploring innovative funding schemes, so that gender mainstreaming is integrated into all policies, programmes and projects;

(j) Establish or reinforce existing institutional mechanisms at all levels to work with national machineries to strengthen societal support for gender equality, in cooperation with civil society, particularly women's non-governmental organizations;

5. *Emphasizes* that while the primary responsibility for gender mainstreaming rests with Governments, partnership with a wide range of political and social bodies at national, regional and international levels is also required for effective outcomes;

6. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system, to support efforts to mainstream a gender perspective at a national level by:

(a) Supporting national Governments in their efforts to strengthen national mechanisms through official development assistance and other appropriate assistance;

(b) Encouraging multilateral, bilateral, donor and development agencies to include in their programmes of assistance, activities that strengthen national machineries;

(c) Providing technical cooperation and other forms of assistance to the developing countries, in particular in Africa and the least developed countries, in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action;

7. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of gender equality and of women's empowerment and participation, together with the mainstreaming of a gender perspective, are among the essential elements for advancing the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, with a view, in particular, to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session on progress in the use of statistical gender analysis and mainstreaming a gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of programmes and policies in order to address the inequality between men and women in the sharing of power and decision-making at all levels.

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Philippines:* draft resolution

Integrating a gender perspective in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation efforts, particularly in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 59/212 of 20 December 2004, 59/231 of 22 December 2004, 59/232 of 22 December 2004 and 59/279 of 28 January 2005,

Taking into account the tsunami disaster that struck the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia regions on 26 December 2004, resulting in thousands of deaths and millions of homeless persons,

Recognizing that women and children have been the most affected by the tsunami disaster,

Noting that women have taken on the role of caring for survivors and maintaining family and community,

Concerned that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other gender-based violence, continues to be deliberately directed against women and girls, in many emergency situations, including in the aftermath of the tsunami disaster,

Reaffirming the conviction contained in the Beijing Declaration[1] to design, implement and monitor, with the full participation of women, effective, efficient and

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

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mutually reinforcing gender-sensitive policies and programmes at all levels that will foster the empowerment and advancement of women,

Recalling the commitments made concerning women and girls affected by natural disasters, displacement and other such emergencies in the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[3]

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/4 of 7 July 2004 on the review of Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,

Deeply concerned that existing post-disaster relief, recovery and rehabilitation efforts, including in the recent tsunami disaster, do not address the gender dimensions of the situation,

1. *Urges* Governments, United Nations entities and international humanitarian relief organizations to integrate a gender perspective as well as engage women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly in the post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation stage;

2. *Strongly calls* upon Governments and other relevant bodies to attend promptly to the basic necessities, such as food, clean water and shelter, as well as health care and psychosocial support, taking into account the particular needs of women and girls;

3. *Underlines* the need to address the issues of livelihood, security, land tenure and housing since they pose major challenges to women, particularly widows, single-headed households and women who have lost all family members;

4. *Also underlines* the need to give attention to the needs of marginalized groups of women, including girls, older women and women with disabilities;

5. *Stresses* the need to utilize the expertise, knowledge and networks of women to promote institutional change towards gender equality and social justice in disaster situations, including local expertise, experience and knowledge for capacity-building in disaster situations;

6. *Strongly urges* Governments, United Nations entities and other relevant bodies to provide the necessary measures to protect women and girls from sexual abuse and other forms of violence;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to involve women in decision-making in disaster situations, including in community-level welfare centres for the displaced, to ensure that human rights abuses are minimized;

8. *Calls upon* all those concerned with relief, rehabilitation and recovery of victims to include gender training in their needs assessment and community and family-based interventions;

9. *Encourages* the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and civil society involved in the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts to implement and monitor community-based participatory approaches so that women can take an

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.

active and equal role in all stages and at all levels of camp management, recovery planning and reconstruction;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that in coordinating the relief and recovery processes, the United Nations system, regional organizations, donor countries and affected States contribute to sensitizing further all reconstruction programmes to the special needs of women and girls;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his reports to the General Assembly the gender dimensions of relief, rehabilitation and recovery efforts coordinated by the United Nations in situations of natural disasters, including the recent tsunami disaster.

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Philippines:* revised draft resolution

Integrating a gender perspective in post-disaster relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, particularly in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 59/279 of 19 January 2005, 59/232 of 22 December 2004, 59/231 of 22 December 2004 and 59/212 of 20 December 2004, as well as the agreed conclusions of the Commission in 2002 on environmental management and the mitigation of natural disasters,

Recalling also the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction held in Kobe, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005, which recognized that a gender perspective should be integrated into all disaster risk management policies, plans and decision-making processes, including those related to risk assessment, early warning, information management and education and training,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the commitment to design, implement and monitor, with the full participation of women, effective, efficient and mutually reinforcing gender-sensitive policies and programmes at all levels that will foster the empowerment and advancement of women,

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions at the Economic and Social Council.

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

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Recalling the commitments regarding women and girls affected by natural disasters, displacement and other such emergencies in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[2]

Recalling also its resolution 48/4 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/4 of 7 July 2004 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,

Conscious of the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact, including the tsunami disaster that struck the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian regions on 26 December 2004, resulting in hundreds of thousands of deaths and millions of displaced and homeless persons,

Expressing concern that women and children account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by natural disasters and their aftermath, including the recent tsunami disaster, and that those living in poverty are most affected,

Noting that women have multiple and varied roles, including caring for survivors and maintaining family and community in disaster situations,

Concerned that women and girls are more vulnerable to violence, including sexual abuse and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence in many emergency situations, including in the aftermath of natural disasters,

Also concerned that women and girls in many disaster situations, including in the aftermath of the tsunami disaster, continue to be victims of violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other gender-based violence,

Welcoming the response, support and assistance of the international community in the relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, which reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation in addressing the recent tsunami disaster and other disasters,

Concerned that existing post-disaster relief, recovery rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, including in the recent tsunami disaster, have not sufficiently addressed the gender dimensions of the situation,

1. *Urges* Governments, in planning for disaster preparedness and responding to natural disasters, to integrate a gender perspective as well as to ensure that women take an active and equal role in all phases of disaster management;

2. *Calls* on United Nations entities and international and local humanitarian relief organizations to strengthen the gender dimensions of their responses to disaster situations;

3. *Strongly calls* on Governments and other relevant bodies, in their responses to disaster situations, to meet the needs of affected populations such as food, clean water, shelter and physical security, as well as to provide services such as health care, including reproductive health, psychological health and psychosocial support and education, taking into account the particular needs of women and girls;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing and implementing sustainable anti-poverty programmes led by the Governments of affected countries, that

[2] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.

improve access to and control over productive resources for women and girls affected by disasters;

5. *Underlines* the need to address the gender equality dimensions of livelihood, security, land tenure, land rights, property and housing since they pose major challenges to women, in particular widows, women heads of households, women with disabilities and women who have lost family members in natural disasters;

6. *Also underlines* the need to give special attention to the vulnerabilities and capacities of marginalized groups of women and girls;

7. *Stresses* the need to utilize the expertise, knowledge and networks of women to promote gender equality and social justice in the context of disaster relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction and to facilitate women's access to media and information and communication technologies;

8. *Strongly urges* Governments, United Nations entities and other relevant bodies to take necessary measures, including the development and implementation of gender-sensitive codes of conduct, to protect women and girls from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and all other forms of violence in the context of natural disasters and to provide appropriate care for women and girls who have been exposed to sexual abuse and other forms of violence;

9. *Urges* Governments, United Nations entities and other relevant bodies involved in post-disaster relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction to provide training on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women and girls and to promote gender balance and gender sensitivity among their representatives and staff;

10. *Calls* on Governments to involve women in all levels of decision-making in disaster situations, including in community-level welfare centres for displaced persons;

11. *Also calls* on Governments to promote and protect the full enjoyment of human rights by women, including in the context of natural disaster relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

12. *Encourages* Governments and relevant bodies of the United Nations system, and invites donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and civil society involved in relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts to implement gender-sensitive, community-based approaches, so that women can take an active and equal role in all stages and at all levels, and to monitor these through various measures, including the collection and use of sex-disaggregated statistical data to accurately track progress and women's participation;

13. *Urges* Governments, United Nations entities and relevant stakeholders to support gender-sensitive capacity-building at all levels of disaster management;

14. *Requests* Governments of affected countries, the United Nations system, regional organizations and donor countries to recognize the vulnerabilities and capacities of women and girls and to address these through a gender-responsive allocation of resources in their relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his reports to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, the gender dimensions of relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts coordinated by the United Nations in situations of natural disasters, including the recent tsunami disaster.

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Jamaica:*, draft resolution**

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women,[1]

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[3] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4]

Recalling also its resolution 2004/56 of 23 July 2004 and other relevant United Nations resolutions,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/CN.6/2005/4.

[2] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[4] See General Assembly resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

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Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[5] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Expressing the urgent need for the full resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and towards the speedy achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Concerned about the grave situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, resulting from severe impact of ongoing illegal Israeli settlement activities and the unlawful construction of the wall, as well as the severe consequences arising from Israeli military attacks on and sieges of civilian areas, which have detrimentally impacted their social and economic conditions and deepened the humanitarian crisis faced by them and their families,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[6] concerning Israel's unlawful construction of a wall, and recalling in particular the Court's conclusion regarding the applicability of international humanitarian law and human rights law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing its condemnation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force against Palestinian civilians, many of them women and children, resulting in injury and loss of human life,

1. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, as well as the international community, to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the full resumption of the peace process on its agreed basis, taking into account the common ground already gained, and calls for measures for tangible improvement of the difficult situation on the ground and the living conditions faced by Palestinian women and their families;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains a major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration in the development planning of their society;

3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[7] the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907[8] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[9] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

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[5] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.

[6] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[7] General Assembly resolution 212 A (III).

[8] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague* Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907 (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions;

6. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[4]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation, to assist Palestinian women by all available means, including those laid out in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women" and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

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Jamaica* and Mexico: draft resolution

Strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling all relevant General Assembly resolutions on the future operations of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/57 of 24 July 2003, in which the Council decided to amend the statute of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Bearing in mind the framework of the strategic plan for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, 2004-2007,

Recognizing a number of important strategic initiatives undertaken by the Institute, including the redesign of its web site, the strengthening of cooperative arrangements with United Nations entities, the expansion of its research programme, the intensification of its fund-raising campaign, the enhancement of communication with governmental agencies, civil society, academia and the private sector and the strengthening of its training, capacity-building and outreach activities,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations members of the Group of 77 and China and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

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Recognizing also that the implementation of the work programme and strategic plan of the Institute will contribute to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[2]

1. *Welcomes* the active participation and contributions of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly[2] in the context of its forty-ninth session;

2. *Invites* voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and stresses the importance of such contributions to enable it to carry out its mandate;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General and all relevant United Nations bodies to support efforts to strengthen the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in particular by promoting its collaboration and coordination with other bodies within the United Nations system;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director of the Institute to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session on the implementation of its programme of work and strategic plan 2004-2007, in particular on those activities related to the follow-up to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

5. *Decides* to continue to encourage efforts to strengthen the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and to monitor progress in this regard during its fiftieth session.

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[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.

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United States of America: draft resolution

Economic Advancement for Women

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 58/142 of 22 December 2003 on women and political participation, 58/206 of 23 December 2003 on women in development, and 59/246 of 22 December 2004, welcoming 2005 the International Year of Microcredit,

Recalling also its agreed conclusions on eradicating poverty, including through the empowerment of women throughout their life cycle, in a globalizing world, and its agreed conclusions on the participation and access of women to the media and information and communication technologies, and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Welcoming the report of the United Nations Commission on the Private Sector and Development entitled "Unleashing entrepreneurship: making business work for the poor",[1] which, inter alia, stressed the important role of women entrepreneurs in achieving economic growth in developing countries,

Welcoming also the June 2004 action plan of the Group of Eight entitled "Applying the power of entrepreneurship to the eradication of poverty",

Noting that hundreds of millions of women worldwide live in poverty and that the majority of poor women throughout the world live in rural areas, where their livelihoods are dependent on subsistence and smallholder agriculture,

[1] See http://www.undp.org/cpsd.

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Emphasizing that poverty can be reduced when poor women and men are provided education, equal opportunity, economic freedom, the benefits of good governance and the rule of law,

Recognizing that improving women's economic status also improves the economic status of their families and their communities,

Acknowledging that full incorporation of women into the political, social and economic decision-making in their societies can enhance development policies,

Expressing its concern that women are often under-represented in official policy-making and lack equal access to education, financial services, property and inheritance rights and other legal protections and that discrimination against women poses a major obstacle to their economic advancement,

Recognizing that information and communications technology can be a vital tool for training women in entrepreneurial skills, accessing financial services and market information and providing small businesses with access to marketing opportunities,

Recognizing that respect for the rule of law, political and civil liberties, human rights, democracy, the promotion of economic freedom and non-discrimination are necessary elements to promote sustainable economic growth,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to:

(a) Eliminate discrimination, provide equal access, actively encourage participation by women and girls in education at all levels and develop programmes that provide training to women in business skills;

(b) Undertake legislative and administrative reforms to create a strong enabling environment for women entrepreneurs, which includes a sound macroeconomic framework; accountable systems for managing public resources; and an attractive investment climate, competitive markets, enforceable contracts, the absence of corruption, regulatory policies that engender public confidence in the market, clear property and inheritance rights and reduced barriers to international trade;

(c) Promote the collection, dissemination, and analysis of statistics that are disaggregated by gender to facilitate better monitoring of the situation of women, including education, employment opportunity, income, ownership and access to finance;

(d) Eliminate discrimination in the work place, providing equal opportunity for the hiring and advancement of women;

(e) Facilitate further development of the financial sector to increase women's access to savings, lending, and other financial services, through incentives and development of intermediaries that serve the needs of women entrepreneurs in both rural and urban areas, and to include women in their leadership, planning, and decision-making;

(f) Encourage business organizations, non-governmental organizations, professional associations, cooperatives, revolving loan funds, credit unions, grass-roots organizations, women's self-help groups and other groups to develop and provide services to women entrepreneurs;

(g) Enhance rural women's income-generating potential, noting the importance of the agricultural sector in the poorest countries and the importance of greater security of land tenure and property ownership for resource mobilization and environmental stewardship;

(h) Promote government and civil society programmes that can enhance the economic opportunity of vulnerable women, such as widows, women with disabilities, elderly women, women belonging to racial and ethnic minorities, refugees, and internally displaced persons and encourage the formation of institutions and associations that develop and provide services to women entrepreneurs, particularly in rural areas;

(i) Promote equal access for women to information and communication technology-based economic activities, such as small business and home-based employment, and to information systems and improved technologies, and further develop tele-centres, community access points and business incubators;

2. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations funds, programmes and the specialized agencies, in accordance with their respective mandates, to assist Governments in strengthening their capacity to reform laws, practices and institutions in order to promote women's entrepreneurship;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of these measures to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session.